

What is claimed is:

1. A media acquisition, processing and distribution system enabling a plurality of media object originators to upload one or more media objects through a web page interface for viewing within a plurality of destination web sites having different media object viewing requirements, comprising:

submission means for each of said plurality of media object originators to associate one or more media objects with a media object identifier on a locally viewable web page and for uploading the one or more media objects to at least one remote server;

storage means for storing information that defines the media object viewing requirements for each of the destination web sites;

first processing means for processing the one or more media objects on said at least one remote server in accordance with the media object viewing requirements of said each of the destination web site; and

viewing means for enabling the processed one or more media objects to be viewable in each destination web site.

2. The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claim 1 further comprising a second processing means for processing the one or more media objects in accordance with the media object viewing requirements before uploading the one or more media objects to said at least one remote server.

3. The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 1

or 2 wherein said viewing means comprises a mirroring means for sending processed the one or more media objects to one or more remote locations for viewing within the destination web sites.

5           4.       The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 1 or 2 wherein said viewing means comprises a hosting means for sending information concerning the location of the processed the one or more media objects for viewing within the destination web sites.

10           5.       The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 2, 3 or 4 wherein said media objects include still images and said second processing means includes means for resizing the still images in accordance with the associated media object viewing requirements.

15           6.       The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 2, 3 or 4 wherein said the one or more media objects include still images and said second processing means includes means for converting the file format of the still images in accordance with the associated media object viewing requirements.

20           7.       The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 2, 3 or 4 wherein said the one or more media objects include video images and said second processing means includes means for encoding the video images in accordance with the associated media object viewing requirements.

8. The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 2, 3 or 4 wherein said the one or more media objects include still images and said first processing means includes means for resizing the still images in accordance with the associated media object viewing requirements.

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9. The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 2, 3 or 4 wherein said the one or more media objects include still images and said first processing means includes means for converting the file format of the still images in accordance with the associated media object viewing requirements.

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10. The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claims 2, 3 or 4 wherein said the one or more media objects include video images and said first processing means includes means for encoding the video images in accordance with the associated media object viewing requirements.

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11. The media acquisition, processing and distribution system of Claim 2 wherein:

said media objects include still images;

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said first and second processing means include means for resizing the still images;

said first processing means includes means for determining a maximum still image size required for all of the destination web sites and for resizing the still images to be no larger than this maximum size; and

said second processing means includes means for further resizing the still images in accordance with the media object viewing requirements of said each destination web site.